PROCLAMATION

Anent the Poſt-office in favours of the Poſt-maſter-general and his Deputs:

ANNE by the grace of GOD, Queen of *Great-Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith; To Our Lovits, Heraulds, Macers of Our Privy Council, Purſevants, Meſſengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially Conſtitute, Greeting: *Forasmuchas*, a Complaint hath been made to Our Privy Council by Our Poſt-Maſter-General, that the Act of Parliament paſt in the year one thouſand ſix hundred and ninty Five, Intituled, *Act anent the Poſt Office*, is not duely obſerved in the particulars following, *viz.* That common Carriers and others where Poſt-offices are erected, and Poſts ſettled, do preſume to carry Letters beſides ſuch as relate to Goods ſent, or to be returned by them, and that Poſtrunners have not ready paſſage as they ought to have at Ferries, ſpecially at the Ferry of *Dundee*; As alſo, that inferior Magiſtrats give not that Concurrance and Aſſiſtance to the Poſt Maſter-General, and his Deputs, in erecting or ſettling of Letter or Poſt-Offices, and for rendering the ſaid Act effectual, and putting the ſame to due Execution, as by the ſaid Act they are required; And whereas by the ſaid Act, Our Privy Council is Authorized and Impowered to take care, that particular Poſt-Offices be eſtabliſhed over all the Kingdom at places moſt convenient, and generally that the ſaid Act be punctually obſerved and execute, and all other things done to make the ſame effectual for the true end and intent thereof: *Therefore*, We with Advice of Our ſaid Privy Council, in proſecution, and for better executing of the foreſaid Act, *Diſcharge* and *Forbid* all common Carriers and others (not Noblemen or Gentlemens Servants,) to Carry, Receive, or Deliver any Letters where Poſt Offices are erected and Poſts ſettled, excepting ſuch Letters allennarly as ſhall be directed with, and do relate to Goods ſent, or to be returned by the ſaid Carriers; *Declaring*, that the ſaid Common Carriers and others when tranſgreſſing may be challenged ſummarly for a preſent Tranſgreſſion, and brought before any Magiſtrat or Juſtice of Peace of the Bounds, and there obliged at the inſtance of the ſaid Poſt Maſter, or his Deputs, to depone anent his carrying, Receiving or Delivering any other Letters at that time than theſe above excepted as ſaid is, and upon his Confeſſion puniſhed, with the Pains and Penalties contained in the ſaid Act, he always being ſummarly diſmiſſed within Six Hours: And furder, We with Advice foreſaid, *Ordain* and *Appoint*, that all Poſt-runners Horſe or Foot have ready paſſage at all Ferries, at all times, and ſpecially at the Ferrie of *Dundee*, where they are to be anſwered and ſerved as ſaid is, they paying when on Foot and hyring a Boat Six pence for their paſſage and Boat-hyre, and when with a Horſe Ten pence, which is the ordinary Rate of Boat-hyres at the ſaid Ferrie; Certifying ſuch as ſhall tranſgreſs, that they ſhall be puniſhed by the Magiſtrats and Juſtices of Peace of the Bounds as they ſhall ſee cauſe, conform to the ſaid Act of Parliament, not exceeding Twenty *lib. Scots toties quoties*, and requiring the ſaid Magiſtrats and Juſtices of Peace to puniſh them accordingly, as they will be anſwerable; *Likeways* We with Advice foreſaid, *Ordain* and *Command*, all Sheriffs, Stewarts, Baillies of Regalities or Royalties, Magiſtrats of Burghs-Royal, Juſtices of Peace, and all other Judges and Magiſtrats whatſomever, alſe well in Burgh as Landwart, to concur with, and aſſiſt Our ſaid Poſt-maſter-general and his Deputs, in diſcharging of his Truſt, and eſpecially in the eſtabliſhing of particular Poſt-Offices where they may be moſt convenient, and that they ſuffer none to hinder or impede them therein, but puniſh all Oppoſers, as they will be anſwerable on their higheſt perril. OUR WILL IS HEREFORE, and We charge you ſtrictly, and Command, that incontinent theſe Our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Mercat-croſs of *Edinburgh*, and to the Mercat-croſſes of the remanent Head-burghs of the ſeveral Shires and Stewartries within this Our ancient Kingdom, and thereat in Our Name and Authority, make Intimation hereof: And Ordains theſe preſents to be Printed that none may pretend Ignorance.

Given under Our Signet at Edinburgh *the fourth day of* Auguſt, *and of Our Reign the firſt Year* 1702.

Per Actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

GILB. ELIOT. *Cls. Sti. Concilii.*

GOD ſave the Queen:

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